

CLAIMS

1. An isolated nucleic acid fragment having the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 in Sequence Listing or an isolated nucleic acid fragment (excluding the nucleic acid having the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 3 in Sequence Listing) having the same nucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 except that one or a plurality of nucleotides are substituted or deleted, or except that one or a plurality of nucleotides are inserted or added, which has an activity to promote expression of a structural gene located downstream of said nucleic acid fragment.
2. The nucleic acid fragment according to claim 1, which hybridizes with the nucleic acid having the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 in Sequence Listing under stringent condition.
3. The nucleic acid fragment according to claim 1 or 2, which contains nucleotides of not more than 120.
4. The nucleic acid fragment according to claim 1, which has the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 in Sequence Listing.
5. A nucleic acid fragment comprising a plurality of nucleic acid fragments according to ~~any one of claims 1-4~~, which are ligated.
6. A recombinant vector comprising at least a nucleic acid fragment having the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 in Sequence Listing or a nucleic acid fragment (excluding the nucleic acid having the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 3 in Sequence Listing) having the same nucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 except that one or a plurality of nucleotides are substituted or deleted, or except that one or a plurality of nucleotides are inserted or added, which has an activity to promote expression of a structural gene located downstream of said nucleic acid fragment, and a structural gene located downstream of said nucleic acid fragment, whose expression is promoted by said nucleic acid fragment.
7. The recombinant vector according to claim 6, wherein said nucleic acid

Sub
C1

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Sub
C2Sub
C3Sub
C3

fragment hybridizes with the nucleic acid having the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 in Sequence Listing under stringent condition.

8. The recombinant vector according to claim 6 or 7, wherein said nucleic acid fragment contains nucleotides of not more than 120.

9. The recombinant vector according to claim 8, wherein said nucleic acid fragment has the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 in Sequence Listing.

10. The recombinant vector according to ~~any one of claims 6 to 9~~, wherein said nucleic acid fragment is inserted in an intron sequence located upstream of said structural gene.

11. The recombinant vector according to claim 10, wherein said intron sequence has the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 3 in Sequence Listing.

12. The recombinant vector according to claim 10, wherein said intron sequence has the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 in Sequence Listing.

13. A method for promoting expression of a structural gene, comprising inserting, at a location upstream of said structural gene, a nucleic acid fragment having the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 in Sequence Listing or a nucleic acid fragment (excluding the nucleic acid having the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 3 in Sequence Listing) having the same nucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 except that one or a plurality of nucleotides are substituted or deleted, or except that one or a plurality of nucleotides are inserted or added, which has an activity to promote expression of a structural gene located downstream of said nucleic acid fragment.

14. The method according to claim 13, wherein said nucleic acid fragment hybridizes with the nucleic acid having the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 in Sequence Listing under stringent condition.

15. The method according to claim 13 or 14, wherein said nucleic acid fragment contains nucleotides of not more than 120.

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a Sub C4

Sub C5

16. The method according to claim 15, wherein said nucleic acid fragment has the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1 in Sequence Listing.

17. The method according to ~~any one of claims 13 to 16~~, wherein said nucleic acid fragment is inserted in an intron sequence located upstream of said structural gene.

18. The method according to claim 17, wherein said intron sequence has the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 3 in Sequence Listing.

19. The method according to ~~any one of claims 13 to 18~~, wherein a region in which a plurality of said nucleic acid fragments which are ligated is formed by inserting said nucleic acid fragments.

20. A plant or progeny thereof, in which expression of a desired structural gene is promoted by the method according to ~~any one of claims 13 to 19~~.

add C7

add D8

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